Design Institute. The composition of the team is as follows :—

(1) Chairman and Managing Director Central Mine Planning and Design Institute. — Leader

(2) Director (Research and Development & Technology), Central Mine Planning & Design Institute.

(3) General Manager, Central Coalfields Ltd.

(4) General Manager (Coal Technology), Central Mine Planning & Design Institute.

(5) Addl. Chief Mining Engineer, South Eastern Coalfields Limited.

(6) Addl. Chief Mining Engineer, North Eastern Coalfields Limited.

(7) Superintendent Geologist, Central Mine Planning and Design Institute.

A separate two-member team comprising of CMD, Singareni Collieries Company Limited alongwith Director(T) of that company has also gone to China for exploring the suitability of Chinese mining equipment for the underground mines in Singareni areas. No programme has been finalised yet for visit of the Chinese team which is expected to visit India after return of the Indian teams.

From the discussions held with the Chinese side there are *prima facie* indications that Chinese longwall equipment might be cheaper by 40% as compared to those from European sources.

बिहार में कार्यरत कोयला खानें

*275. **श्री ब्रह्मदेव आनंद पासवान** : क्या कोयला मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या 1976 से पूर्व बिहार में 100 से अधिक खानें चालू हालत में थीं;

(ख) उनमें से कितनी खानें आजकल चालू हालत में हैं;

(ग) क्या काफी खानें चालू हालत में होते हुए भी बंद कर दी गई हैं; और

(घ) क्या इस वजह से राज्य सरकार को क्षति हो रही है और इस क्षति की पूर्ति के लिए केन्द्रीय सरकार राज्य सरकार को क्या मुआवजा दे रही है ?

कोयला मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री अजित कुमार पांजा) : (क) जी, हां ।

(ख) और (ग) कुल 156 खानों में से, जोकि वर्ष 1975-76 के दौरान कार्यचालन में थीं, कई खानों को पुनर्गठित किया गया है और केवल 7 खानों को अभी तक विभिन्न कारणों से अर्थात् कोयला समाप्त हो जाने, अलाभकारिता, आदि के कारण बंद किया गया है । वर्ष 1993 के दौरान बिहार में कार्यचालित खानों की संख्या 165 है ।

(घ) जी, नहीं । बंद की गई खानों से हुई 0.3 मिलियन टन की सीमान्तिक क्षति की तुलना में नई खोली गई खानों से 14.63 मि॰ टन का अतिरिक्त उत्पादन प्राप्त कर लिया गया है । इसके परिणामस्वरूप राज्य सरकार को रायल्टी/कर, इत्यादि के रूप में अधिक राजस्व प्राप्त हुआ है ।

Non-Recovery of Worker's dues from Sick Industrial Units

*276. SHRIMATI MIRA DAS :
SHRI SOM PAL :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that it is almost impossible for sick and non-performing units in industrial sector to shut down officially, if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether Government are aware of the fact that due to the above situation, the dues of workers like gratuity, privilege leave and provident funds remain locked up and sick units go into liquidation and then the revival process is lengthened beyond the limit of tolerance of unemployed workers; and

(c) whether Government have undertaken any steps to retrieve the situation by way of legislative amendment in the labour laws or through administrative measures, if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) to (c) Provisions for closing down an industrial establishment are laid down in the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947. As per the Act an employer who intends to close down an industrial establishment shall serve a notice on the appropriate Government. The obligation to serve notice does not exist for establishments employing less than 50 workmen as well as establishments set up for construction of

buildings, bridges, roads and similar projects. Further an employer in respect of a factory, mine or plantation employing 100 or more workmen shall take prior permission from the appropriate Government before closing down any such establishment. If Government decision is not received within 60 days, it shall be deemed that permission for closure requested for has been granted.

As per the provisions of the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985, it is mandatory for the management of a sick industrial company to refer the case to the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) which may sanction schemes for reconstruction, revival or rehabilitation or take such other preventive, ameliorative and remedial measures as may be appropriate after making necessary examination through an operating agency. Where the Board is of the opinion that the sick industrial company should be wound up, it shall forward its opinion to the concerned High Court and the High Court would then pass an order for winding up of the sick industrial company and proceed to wind up the same in accordance with the provisions contained in the Companies Act, 1956. The assests of the wound up company are sold under supervision of the official liquidator and the sale proceeds are used for clearing dues of the creditors, including workmens' dues. The existing procedures for examination of viability of rehabilitation schemes and issue of orders for winding up sick industrial undertakings are generally time consuming. However, BIFR proceedings by themselves do not stand in the way of payment of statutorily entitled dues to the workers. Delays in payments, if any, may occur if the manner of such payments is considered as part of rehabilitation/revival schemes. And, invariably, representatives of workers are consulted in BIFR proceedings on such matter.

गरीबी की रेखा का निर्धारण करने संबंधी समिति का प्रतिवेदन

*277. **श्री राम जेठमलानी :**
श्री वीरेन जे. शाह :

क्या योजना और कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि गरीबी की रेखा का निर्धारण करने हेतु नये तरीकों तथा आधारों को परिभाषित करने के लिए जो समिति गठित की गई थी, उसने अपना प्रतिवेदन सरकार को दे दिया है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो सरकार को यह प्रतिवेदन किस तारीख को प्राप्त हुआ;

(ग) गरीबी की रेखा का निर्धारण करने के लिए प्रतिवेदन में जो नये तरीके तथा आधार सुझाये गये है, उनका ब्यौरा क्या है;

(घ) क्या यह भी सच है कि यदि गरीबी की रेखा का निर्धारण नये तरीकों तथा आधारों के अनुसार किया जाता है, तो देश में गरीबी से नीचे रहने वाले लोगों की संख्या निश्चित रूप से बढ़ जायेगी; और

(ङ) यदि हां, तो इस समय देश में गरीबी की रेखा के नीचे रहने वाले लोगों की अनुमानित संख्या कितनी है ?

योजना और कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री गिरिधर गोमांगो) : (क) से (ङ) गरीबों के अनुपात तथा संख्या के आकलन पर विशेषज्ञ दल ने हाल में (24 जुलाई, 1993 को) अपनी रिपोर्ट उपाध्यक्ष, योजना आयोग को प्रस्तुत कर दी है ।

विशेषज्ञ दल ने उपभोग व्यय, मूल्य परिवर्तनों, राज्यों में मूल्य विभिन्नताओं, तथा गरीबों के उपभोग पैटर्न के आंकड़ों के विस्तृत अध्ययन के बाद गरीबी का आकलन करने के लिए एक कार्य प्रणाली की सिफारिश की है । विशेषज्ञ दल ने सुझाव दिया है रहन-सहन के स्तर तथा रोजगार से संबंधित गरीबी के साथ-साथ सरकार द्वारा उपलब्ध कराई गई निशुल्क सामाजिक सेवाओं के संबंध में भी गहन अध्ययन किया जाए ।

Trader Scheme for Small entrepreneurs

*278. SHRI SURESH KALMADI : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Coal India Ltd. has launched an ambitious mini-trader scheme for small entrepreneurs as an opportunity for self employment; and

(b) if so, what are the full details of the scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) With a view to improving availability of coal to larger cross section of buyers and encourage self employment, Coal India Ltd. have launched a scheme for appointment of Mini Traders for coal. They have given wide publicity to the scheme. The intending Mini Traders are to get themselves registered with Coal Companies by depositing a nominal amount of Rs. 5000 (Refundable) as registration fees. There is no last date for receipt of applications. However, applications received upto 14-8-1993 would be registered in the first